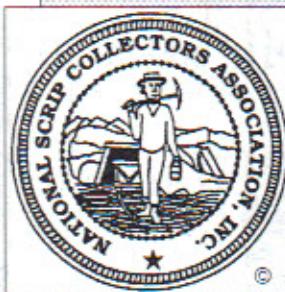


# SCRIPT TALK

164

January/February 2011   Volume # 39   Issue # 163



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Howard Fortune 1/1/2012

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Spring Scrip Show  
April 29 & 30, 2011  
Beckley, WV

The Solner Mining Co.  
Whitesburg, KY  
Edkins KY 3009 A-100 (R-10)

# Spring Scrip Show



**Where:**

Country Inns & Suites' Mountaineer Conference Center  
Beckley, WV

**When:**

Friday, April 29 - 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday, April 30 - 8 a.m. to Noon

**Room Reservations:**

Pamela Smith— 304/252-5100

Mention the NSCA to receive the show discount

**Show Information:**

Garrett Salyers: [gsalyers@hotmail.com](mailto:gsalyers@hotmail.com)  
606-286-5056

*Note: Because of the discounted rates the Conference Center has offered the NSCA, please don't bring refreshments into the show. Refreshments will be available for purchase through the Conference Center.*

*There are a variety of restaurants in the area. Show attendees will be responsible for their own meals.*

# J. R. NORMAN

ELK GARDEN W. VA.

## Billy W. Campbell

THE WEBSITE OF WEST VIRGINIA MINERS HEALTH SAFETY AND TRAINING STATES THAT MAPLEVILLE COAL NO.1 OPERATED FROM 1917 TO 1928.

THE 1920 WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES STATES THAT MAPLEVILLE COAL COMPANY OPERATED MAPLEVILLE NOS. 1 & 2. AT ELK GARDEN, WITH W.W. HARRIS BEING THE SUPERINTENDENT AND M.E. HARRIS AS FOREMAN, WITH A TOTAL LABOR FORCE OF 23 MEN. THE COAL SEAM WAS 3 & 4 FEET THICK. THE POST OFFICE WAS AT ELK GARDEN, W. VA.

THE 1927 WEST VIRGINIA ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES STATES THAT MAPLEVILLE COAL CO. OPERATED THE MAPLEVILLE MINE AT ELK GARDEN, WITH P. H. HARRIS BEING THE SUPERINTENDENT AND BERNARD CROSS THE FOREMAN, WITH A TOTAL LABOR FORCE OF 3 [THREE] MEN.

GORDON DODRILL'S BOOK "20,000 COAL COMPANY STORES," ON PAGE 180 ITEM #N518, STATES THAT J.R. NORMAN OPERATED A STORE FOR MAPLEVILLE COAL CO AT ELK GARDEN, W. VA., BETWEEN 1920 AND 1930. TOKENS ARE KNOWN TO EXIST.

IN THE APRIL 1985 ISSUE OF SCRIP TALK, VOL. 13 NUMBER 106, SCRIPTOR ROBERT SLUSHER NOTING THAT THE 1918 KEYSTONE DIRECTORY SHOWS MAPLEVILLE COAL CO. WITH POST OFFICE AT ELK GARDEN JUST DEVELOPING THAT YEAR WITH 15 EMPLOYEES. J.R. NORMAN IS LISTED AS PRESIDENT AND TREASURER.

IN THE SAME ISSUE, SCRIPTOR JIM THOMPSON SENT ALONG INFO THAT HE RESEARCHED IN R.G. DUN AND COMPANY AND NOTES THAT J.R. NORMAN WAS THE COMPANY STORE FOR MAPLEVILLE COAL COMPANY IN SHAW AND ELK GARDEN.

IN MY MARCH 1919 ISSUE OF BRADSTREET BOTH MAPLEVILLE COAL CO AND J.R. NORMAN ARE LISTED. J.R. NORMAN IS NOT LISTED IN EITHER SHAW OR GORMANIA, BUT THERE IS A LISTING IN SHAW OF A.M. NORMAN AS A GENERAL STORE.

ALSO IN THE SAME ISSUE SCRIPTOR HAROLD LEE PENS THAT THIS IS NOT COAL. HE NOTES THAT THE NORMANS HAD STORES IN SHAW, ELK GARDEN AND GORMANIA W. VA. HE NOTES THAT HUBER NORMAN STILL LIVES [ APR. 1985 ] IN ELK GARDEN NEXT TO THE STORE HE SOLD IN 1981.

AS HAS BEEN NOTED MANY TIMES THAT COAL OPERATORS HAD A UNIQUE TIE TO THE COMPANY STORES. I BELIEVE THIS IS THE CASE IN J.R. NORMAN SCRIP.

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION THERE IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CALL J.R. NORMAN COAL AND TO BE ADDED TO ELK GARDEN [897] IN THE NEXT REVISION OF THE EDKINS CATALOGUE. I HAVE IN MY COLLECTION J.R.NORMAN SCRIP D5-10-25-100-500.

*All rights reserved by author.  
Scrip Talk welcomes your stories & articles*



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# Resources from the NSCA

## Edkins Catalogue of United States Coal Company Scrip

*Volume 1, Third Edition*

This 380 page hardcover book lists almost 9000 pieces of scrip. Information includes the company that issued the piece, denominations issued in the series, material the piece is composed of, diameter, shape, visual representation of any cut-out in the piece, and a rarity rating that gives a suggested value.

Issued by the NSCA, this is the recognized guide for collecting and valuing scrip. Volume 1 lists scrip from 36 states, not including West Virginia which is the subject of Volume 2. This is the latest edition and also includes a wealth of information about the history of scrip. Sections include: Early Coal History; Scrip Heritage; How Scrip was Used; Fakes; and a look at the makers of scrip.

**MEMBER COST: \$35 + \$6 shipping**

## Edkins Catalogue of United States Coal Company Scrip

*Volume 2, Third Edition*

This 370 page hardcover book lists over 7,400 pieces of West Virginia coal mine scrip. Information includes the company that issued the piece, denominations issued in the series, material the piece is composed of, diameter, shape, visual representation of any cut-out in the piece, and a rarity rating that gives a suggested value. The definitive guide to West Virginia scrip.

Issued by the NSCA, this is the latest edition. Volume 2 lists scrip from West Virginia. This is the current edition and includes a wealth of information about the history and use of scrip, as well as the actual listings of individual pieces.

**MEMBER COST: \$40 + \$6 shipping**

## EXPLOSIVE CONTROL TOKENS

This extensively illustrated volume is the most thorough study of exploder tokens ever written. Contents include: Metals & Compositions, Sizes & Shapes, Valuations, Manufacturers, Counterfeits, Re-strikes, a cross reference to the Edkins catalogues, and more. A fascinating glimpse at the history of a variety of coal mine operations, in addition to its specific focus on exploders. 140 pages, hard cover.

**MEMBER COST: \$20 + \$6 shipping**

## CATALOGUE OF LUMBER COMPANY STORE TOKENS

This book is very similar to the *Edkins* coal scrip books that are the standard for valuing and collecting coal company scrip; but this 575 page hardcover book is dedicated completely to listing the thousands of styles of lumber scrip issued in the past by logging and lumber companies in all 50 states, including maverick listings. Published by the NSCA.

Not only is the value and complete description of each denomination of scrip individually listed, but many companies have a short paragraph about their history of operation, the facilities they owned, or the amount of track laid by the company. A wealth of information for the lumber token collector.

**MEMBER COST: \$40 + \$6 shipping**

## ORDER FORM

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

— EDKINS vol 1	\$35
— EDKINS vol 2	\$40
— Explosive Tokens	\$20
— Lumber Catalogue	\$40

*Shipping: \$6 for the first item, \$2 each additional*

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# New Finds

## TOTZ, KY., 2817, HARLAN

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A25 Br 25 Rd Sd  
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## BARREN FORK, KY., 163, McCREARY

The Eagle Stores Co., / Inc. /50  
C50 NP 27 Rd Co  
Insurance Credit System

## GUNN, KY., 1198, BREATHITT

Riverside / Coal/ Co. Inc.  
A5 Br 18 Rd Sd  
Good For / 5 / In / Merchandise

## WAR EAGLE, WV, 2943, MINGO

War Eagle / (eagle head) / Supply Co. / War Eagle, W. VA.  
A10b Br 21 Rd Sd  
Good For / 10 / In / Merchandise

## SWISS, WV, 2735, NICHOLAS

Swiss Supply Co. / 10 / Swiss, W. Va.  
A10 NP 21 Rd Co  
ICS

Send new finds to:

**BILL FUGERA**  
**28732 CHARREADAS**  
**LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA 92677**  
**FUGEWILJ@COX.NET**

## BERYL, WV., 241, MINERAL

Silver Supply Company / 10  
B10 Br 21 Rd Sd  
ICS

## MINERA, TX., 1917, WEBB

Rio Grande / Coal / Company / Minera, Texas  
\$100 Br 40 ( point to point ) 36 ( flat to flat ) Oc Sd  
Store keeper will deliver / to bearer / \$100--- / In Merchandise

## BRIDGEPORT, TX., 377, WISE

Bridgeport / Coal / Bridgeport / Texas  
So. STP & STA. Co. / Rich.VA.  
E5 Al 21 Rd Sd  
Good For / 5¢ / In Mdse

## HOARDS

Recently listed on E Bay were 99 nickels and 100 dimes from Herman Grocery.( Logan ).  
No rarity damage since both are listed as R 1.

## Join the NSCA!

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# DARE TO COMPARE

SOME RAMBLING' THOUGHTS by *Billy W. Campbell* bwcok@knology.net

Most, if not all people in the United States have at one time or another used or been exposed to a product that had a coal connection in some way. One of the earliest references found of coal as a fuel was the writing of the Greek scientist Theophrastus [371-2287 BC] a student of Plato and successor of Aristotle. Did you know that besides Coal as a fuel to keep us warm and power industries, that many everyday items use some type of Coal by-product: Insecticides, Artificial Silk, Synthetic Rubber, Medicines, Perfume, Barking Powder, Sugar Substitutes, Plastic and many more?

In this age of information all anyone has to do is type in "Coal Uses" in their computer. There's more information than you can read. Just goes to show how important Coal was and still is to our well being. There are books of the hardships of the Coal miners, and lots of very interesting history records of mine owners, disasters in and out of the mines, coal area railroads, coal miners families, company towns, stores and scrip.

The coal scrip collector is really not very different from the U. S. coin collector and perhaps they may be one in the same. Both are hobbies, both have dealers that buy and sell and both have casual and serious collectors. The big difference is the number of collectors in each hobby, and that's a huge difference. However, Coal scrip collecting is UNIQUE, the Coal scrip hobby could not support a large collector base like U.S. coins. The total number of Coal tokens prevents that. However, seems like some scrip is very common and they are, some companies had thousands or tens of thousands made of a single denomination. At this time I know there are at least 7700 different tokens catalogued in the West Virginia third edition of "EDKINS CATALOGUE OF UNITED STATES COAL COMPANY STORE SCRIP". I have proof positive there are over 800 known but, unlisted West Virginia Coal scrip waiting to be listed in the next catalogue revision. But there are several thousand denominations of just West Virginia known coal scrip that are as hard to find as chicken teeth.

From the mid 1960's when Walter Caldwell and a few others brought Coal scrip collecting to the light and rare scrip sold for tens of dollars to today where the same scrip sells for hundreds of dollars, I foresee scrip selling even higher in the future. Why ?? Destruction, lost, misplaced or just taken out of the collecting area by families of past miners, collections donated to libraries and museums and others reasons that you may think of. Even now I have a want list of about 200 R1 through R5 West Virginia coal tokens I will pay \$50.00 each for. We do know by records that are available, mintages of some scrip. We do not know the survivor scrip numbers when the companies quit using scrip . But, where you only had a hundred or so tokens to start with 80 to a 100 years or more ago, it's not hard to see how rare some scrip is. Coal scrip collecting is really the new kid on the collecting scene, very few people know or even care about coal scrip. Those of us that do, have an opportunity today to save a memory of a time when life was a struggle just to survive. If you collect coal scrip without backing up each town, store or mine with some written information about them then you're missing a blessing of history that we should not forget.

The U.S. coins could be spent anywhere, if you had any. When did coal companies in West Virginia first start using scrip? Maybe mid 1800's or so. Scrip collectors usually do not collect scrip for the monetary value that it will sell for, although I know that it will keep increasing in value as most items do, we collect because we can, it's fun, exciting, history, knowledge and a multitude of other reasons I'm sure. To me each time I see a token in my collection and I know information of the time, town, company and mine, I can visualize but not completely understand the work the miner had to do to earn the payday credit I'm looking at without being at his side. I fully know from information I've gleamed in the pictures, records and books I've seen and read, that the scrip was earned in conditions that were brutally hard. Again, coal scrip is UNIQUE, coal scrip has a face and personality that general U.S. coinage can never touch. Who can forget pictures of young slate pickers, the fire door kids or miners working a very low coal seam with maybe a candle or lantern for lighting, Other pictures that stand out are those of the rough sawn lumber shanties, family houses, privies and streets that were nothing to write home about or nothing period. As a matter of book interest of West Virginia coal, the following books are a few outside of direct scrip references that the collector might want to have: History of Coal Miners of the United States by Andrew Roy, History of the West Virginia Coal Industry by Phil Conley, The Logan Coal Field of West Virginia by Walter R. Thurmond, The Smokeless Coal Fields of West Virginia W. P. Tams Jr. and Billion Dollar Coalfield by Alex P. Schust.

Coal scrip was never produced with the intent of keeping or collecting only spending it as quick as possible for the items needed to exist. I am not a dealer, but I would say I'm a serious collector who collects the entire state of West Virginia and has spent many, many enjoyable hours in books, records, and scrip.

## NSCA Free Ads for Members

Free Ads are available to N.S.C.A. members at no charge. The only requirements being that they are limited to 4 lines, one ad per issue. You may send up to four different ads in one mailing. Deadline for Free Ads is three weeks after the postmark of the current issue of SCRIP TALK. All ads received after the deadline will be held for the following issue. No ad will rerun automatically, each issue will require a separate request. Paid ads should be sent to SCRIP TALK Editor and NOT the Free Ad Editor. SEND ALL FREE ADS TO: Steve Ratliff, N.S.C.A. Free Ad Editor, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive, Milton, Florida 32583-7343. More and more scriptors are using the convenience of email to submit their ads; send to [Steve@Ratliff.com](mailto:Steve@Ratliff.com) (Note: + at the end of your ad indicates you need to renew it.)

**WANTED: VIRGINIA COAL AND MERCHANT TOKENS.** I collect all areas of Virginia and I especially like the southwestern section of Virginia. I'll make a cash offer or trade if I have something of interest to you. John Taylor, 423-246-9126 or [johntaylor@chartertn.net](mailto:johntaylor@chartertn.net) +

**FOR SALE: W.G. DUNCAN COAL CO.** - Edkins 1701-B25 R-5 & Edkins 1157-A5 - both for \$10 + SASE. Steven Kawalec, P.O. Box 4281, Clifton, NJ 07012 [owlprowler@aol.com](mailto:owlprowler@aol.com) (937) 868-9258 +

**TOP DOLLARS PAID FOR CARBIDE CAP LAMPS,** oil wick/lard lamps, blasting cap tins, scatter tags, carbide lamp parts and other small mining artifacts that I may need in my collection. I will pay more than anyone for items needed for my collection. Contact Larry Click, 1021 N. Jefferson St., Arlington, VA 22205-2454, 703-241-3748 or email [Larry-Click@msn.com](mailto:Larry-Click@msn.com)

**FLORIDA TOKENS WANTED - FLORIDA TOKENS OF ALL TYPES WANTED.** Send 61¢ stamp for free sample of Florida Token Society's newsletter, TOKENNEWS and request free Florida token. Check out the Florida Token Society web site: <http://www.floridatokensociety.com> you can join and pay dues on-line! Steve Ratliff, 1717 Saint Marys Bay Drive, Milton, FL 32583-7343 [Steve@Ratliff.com](mailto:Steve@Ratliff.com) check out my EBay sales, many pieces of coal scrip. All starting at 99 cents. Search florida-token-collector, be sure to click box for "Include title and description." Also looking for original or good copies of Florida B&D directories.

**LISTS EXCHANGED** Send two (2) stamps to receive latest trading list of exploders, lumber tokens, KY and WV coal tokens and transportation. Gene Miller, 3306 Startan Ct., Louisville, KY 40220

A REMINDER, "+" AFTER YOUR AD MEANS  
IT IS TIME TO RENEW



Some members have expressed an interest in sharing contact information through the Scrip Talk, to make it easier to talk together about scrip related issues. If you'd like to share your email address or phone number with the members of the club, send the information to Scrip Talk [304/222-2215 or [ktraube@suddenlink.net](mailto:ktraube@suddenlink.net)] to be published in a future issue.

